

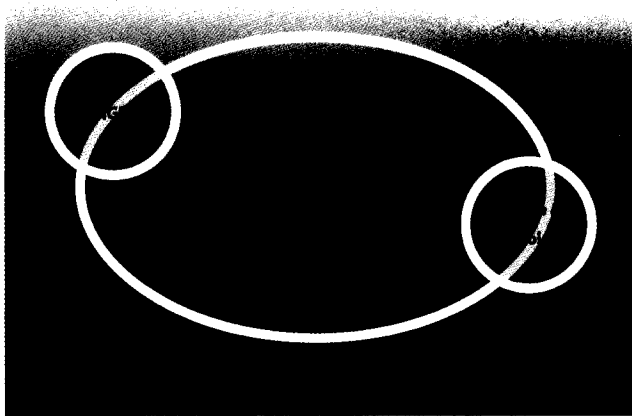


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made it possible to establish the variations in temperature and humidity both within the walls and the rooms on the different floors.

The extent and range of data thus generated made it possible to identify and suggest a mode of intervention that would: protect the wealth of knowledge which this – like all ancient buildings – preserves; and enable the Rocca Rangoni to play an integral part in the life of the community to which it belongs.

A2/7 - SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTING THE QANAT OF SHAHROOD PROVINCE (IRAN)¹

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The term “qanat” is used to indicate the ancient underground tunnels built in historical, even archaic, times to channel water to arid desert zones, thereby meeting human and irrigation needs. In Iran, especially in Shahrood Province, located in the northern part of the Kavir, these tunnels are frequent and their structures leave a noticeable mark on modern and ancient settlements. Although they are still perfectly operational, thanks to regular maintenance, in some cases deterioration can be seen since topographical references have actually been lost. These circumstances arise mainly in the more complex qanat and the sections furthest from their outlets. A project is being implemented to reconfigure the sites completely and re-evaluate their use in the light of a series of functional, cultural and tourist goals.

¹The research project is activated by a protocol of understanding between the Department of Earth Sciences at Shahrood University of Technology, the L'Aquila University Department of Environmental Sciences, and the CNR Institute of Chemical Methodologies, Rome.